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BOROUGH OF BOSTON  
AND  
BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
and of the  
Chief Public Health Inspector  
for the year 1963.



## MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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„ J. H. DELL.

„ A. DURRANT (Died 1st May, 1963).

„ N. O. HAWORTH.

„ Dr. G. R. USMAR.

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„ G. G. A. WHITEHEAD.

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# STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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**Medical Officer of Health and Port Medical Officer of Health :**

G. HIRD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :**

G. E. CHAMBERLAIN, M.A.P.H.I.

**Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :**

D. H. MILSOM, M.A.P.H.I.

**Additional Public Health Inspector and Port Health Inspector :**

B. J. SAUNDERS, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

**Chief Clerk :**

D. DADY.

**Junior Clerk :**

J. R. BROUGHTON

(Resigned 29th December, 1963).

**Typist (part-time) :**

Mrs. M. JACKSON.

# BOROUGH OF BOSTON AND PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

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To :—The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Boston.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

It is with much pleasure that I present to you the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department and generally on the health conditions in the Borough during the year 1963.

The mid-year population as estimated by the Registrar-General was 25,010, an increase of 80 on the figure for 1962. The corresponding estimate 10 years ago was 24,330.

The natural increase of population, however, which is the excess of births over deaths, for 1963 was 170. There were 446 births during 1963, 32 more than in the previous year. Of these 37 were illegitimate, an increase of 9. This represents about 8% of all births. This figure appears to be rising year by year. The Crude Birth Rate was 17.8 and after adjustment with the Comparability Factor issued by the Registrar-General the Corrected Birth Rate was 18.0. This corresponds very closely with the figure for England and Wales which was 18.2 for 1963.

There were 9 Still Births, one more than in the previous year. This gave a Still Birth Rate of 19.8 which is slightly above the national figure of 17.2. During the year there were 9 deaths under the age of 1 year, one less than the corresponding figure for last year. This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 20.2 which again compares favourably with the figure of 21.1 for England and Wales. Generally speaking, there has been a progressive fall in relation to these figures in the past few years.

There were 276 deaths from all causes during 1963. This was 11 more than in 1962. This gives an adjusted Death Rate of 11.9. The figure for England and Wales was 12.2. 59 people died from

malignant disease and of these 15 were due to Lung Cancer. The proportion, 13 males to 2 females,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to 1, again closely follows the national trend in respect of this disease. The 15 deaths represent 25% of the deaths. With regard to the 36 men who died from cancer, 36% were due to Cancer of the Lung. The number of deaths due to this cause continues to rise rapidly. With regard to other causes, Heart and Circulatory Diseases accounted for 126 deaths. This represents about 46% of all deaths and is, of course, the highest single cause of death. Deaths from other well known causes such as Respiratory Diseases accounted for 33, Motor Accidents 1, Other Accidents 6 and Suicide 3.

Infectious diseases were again fairly numerous during the year, Measles leading the top of the table with 242 cases. The next commonest, but one of the most difficult to deal with from a public health point of view, was Dysentery with 132 cases. Both 1962 and 1963 were bad years from this aspect as there were large numbers in both years. It is possible that there may have been several undetected carriers left over from the previous epidemic which were responsible. In many instances, of course, this disease, which can often be relatively mild especially in children, will go undetected but this is the reason for the spread of the disease in schools, etc., and in turn in the home. The follow-up of these cases is both unrewarding and time consuming and from the clinical point of view, the organism can only be successfully killed by the most modern and usually expensive antibiotics. Nevertheless, Dysentery can be a fatal disease and a close watch must always be kept on food handlers at all times.

There were again no cases of Poliomyelitis in the Borough. In the past 9 years there has only been one paralytic case. In this respect the town has been very fortunate. With Oral vaccine now generally in use one would expect a high percentage of people immunised against Polio. This is so in the school age groups where the average is about 80%. This rapidly falls in the late 20 age group and even more so in the adult groups where the figures fall to about 44%. In most cases failure to take advantage of immunisation is probably just apathy, but there are still the "Non-believers", the Abusive Anti-Immunisationists" and the "I'm all right" groups who cannot be converted. I am grateful to Dr. Fielding, County Medical Officer, for supplying details of immunisation within the Borough.

With regard to Housing, further progress was made with the Slum Clearance Programme. The Witham Green Compulsory Purchase

Order was confirmed together with 3 small Clearance Orders comprising in all a total of 111 houses. Later in the year 2 further Compulsory Purchase Orders and a Clearance Order were made but had not been confirmed by the 31st December. The number of houses in these 3 areas was 34. Tables later in the report give fuller details of the families rehoused from unfit and other dwellings. With regard to new housing during the year, 68 dwellings were erected by the Council and 99 by private builders. The number of dwellings under construction at the end of the year totalled 72 by the Council and 62 by private builders.

Further progress was made on the West Side Sewerage Scheme during the year and Phase III of the scheme, dealing with laying of sewers in the Sleaford Road, Woodville Road and Fenside Road areas of the town had reached the stage where tenders had been invited.

A major event in 1963 was the appearance and opening of a new swimming bath. This, a long standing item of complaint in the Annual Report, has been finally dealt with. Needless to say all the bacteriological reports on the water were satisfactory.

The Appointed Day for Slaughterhouses was again postponed until 1st January, 1964. This was largely to enable a new slaughterhouse to be completed. The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into force on 1st October and this laid down the stamping of carcases after inspection and also the methods and details of inspection. The Regulations also allowed Local Authorities to charge for the inspection of meat. Although the total number of animals inspected, 36,493, was slightly less than in the previous year, it was still necessary for the inspectors to work outside their normal hours, in the evenings and at weekends.

On the whole the general health conditions in the Borough were satisfactory and the various statistical figures compare very favourably with those for England and Wales.

Assistance with information has again been readily given by the other Officers of the Council. Close co-operation exists with the County Health Department regarding the investigation of infectious diseases in schools and with the County Welfare Department on other matters. The Public Health Laboratory Service was again exceedingly helpful during the outbreak of Dysentery and I wish to acknowledge the assistance given by the Director, Dr. Croll, and his staff.

It was not an easy year for the staff, inspectors and clerical alike. Mr. Chamberlain has again helped with the preparation of this report and I would wish to thank all the staff for their loyal support during the year. In conclusion I should also like to thank the Chairman (Alderman Mrs. Johnson) and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support during 1963.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient servant,

G. HIRD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,

8 Bridge Street,

BOSTON, Lincs.

Telephone No. 4601 (six lines)

October, 1964.

## Part 1

### SECTION A

#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

##### GENERAL STATISTICS :—

Area (in acres) ... ... ... ... ... ... ...	3,259
Home Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1963) ... ... ... ... ... ... ...	25,010
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1963 (according to the Rate Books) ... ... ... ... ... ...	8,504
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1964 ... ... ...	£950,146
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (Est. 1964-65) ... ...	£3,890
Estimated average number of Persons per Inhabited House	2.9
Estimated average number of Persons per Acre ... ...	7.7
Average number of Inhabited Houses per Acre ... ...	2.6

##### SOCIAL CONDITIONS, ETC. :—

The social conditions of the area have remained unchanged during the year.

##### VITAL STATISTICS :—

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ... ... ... ... ...	211	198	409
Illegitimate ... ... ... ... ...	15	22	37
Total Live Births ... ... ... ...	226	220	446
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude)			17.8
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (adjusted) ... ... ... ... ...			18.0
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births			8.3%
Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ... ... ... ... ...	4	5	9
Illegitimate ... ... ... ... ...	—	—	—
Total Still Births ... ... ... ...	4	5	9
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... ...			19.8

			Male	Female	Total
<b>Total Live and Still Births</b>	...	...	230	225	455

### Infant Deaths

#### Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	5	3	8
Illegitimate	...	...	—	1	1
<b>Total</b>	...	...	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>

#### Infant Mortality Rates :—

- (a) All infants per 1,000 live births ... ... ... 20.2
- (b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 19.6
- (c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births 27.0

#### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	—	1	1
<b>Total</b>	...	...	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births ... ... 11.2

#### Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	2	—	2
Illegitimate	...	...	—	1	1
<b>Total</b>	...	...	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births ... 6.7

#### Perinatal Mortality

			Male	Female	Total
Still Births and Deaths under 1 week	...	...	6	6	12
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	26.4	26.4	26.4

## Maternal Mortality

Maternal Deaths (including abortion) ... ... ... ...	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Nil

## Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
All Causes ... ... ... ...	136	140	276
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude) ...	...	...	11.0
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (adjusted) ...	...	...	11.9

## OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS

In the following comments on the Vital Statistics both the crude birth and death rates are given together with the rates after adjustment by the Comparability Factors. These factors have been supplied by the Registrar-General, and are intended to afford a means of adjustment to allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas. Consequently, the adjusted birth and death rates enable a more accurate comparison to be made with the corresponding rates in other areas.

It is also emphasised that undue significance should not be attached to rates which are based on very small numbers (e.g. infant mortality) and that a comparison of such rates with those in other areas, or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

### POPULATION :—

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1963 was 25,010, an increase of 80 on the figure given for the previous year which was 24,930. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 170.

### BIRTHS :—

446 Births (226 male, 220 female) were registered during 1963. This gives a Crude Birth Rate of 17.8 and an Adjusted Birth Rate of 18.0. These are higher than the corresponding figures of 16.6 and 16.3 for the year 1962. The Birth Rate for England and Wales as given by the Registrar-General was 18.2.

### STILL BIRTHS :—

There were 9 Still Births during 1963, which was 1 more than in the previous year. This represents a Still Birth Rate of 19.8. The figure for England and Wales was 17.2.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY :—

No deaths from this cause occurred during 1963.

## INFANT MORTALITY :—

There were 9 deaths under the age of 1 year in 1963, 5 of them occurring within the first 4 weeks of life. The Infant Mortality Rate was 20.2 which is lower than that for 1962 which was 24.1. The figure for England and Wales was 21.1.

## PERINATAL MORTALITY :—

This includes the Still Births and Deaths under 1 week and for 1963 the figure was 26.4 which is much lower than for 1962. The figure for England and Wales was 29.3.

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES :—

There were 276 deaths during 1963 (136 male and 140 female). This represented 11 more than in the previous year. A comprehensive list of the Classified Causes of Death is given later. Mention has already been made of the main causes of death and the relative percentages involved.

### Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates in Borough of Boston, 1949-1963.

Year	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rates	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates	Average 5 years		
						Birth Rates	Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates
1949	507	20.5	318	12.9	35.5			
1950	424	16.9	334	13.3	30.7			
1951	424	17.4	278	11.4	30.7	17.6	11.9	31.2
1952	397	16.4	267	11.0	25.2			
1953	414	17.0	260	10.7	33.8			
1954	432	17.7	259	10.6	30.1			
1955	379	15.6	254	10.4	29.0			
1956	438	18.1	238	9.8	29.7	17.2	10.0	30.4
1957	429	17.9	204	8.5	25.6			
1958	401	16.6	262	10.8	37.4			
1959	390	16.1	275	11.3	25.6			
1960	429	17.5	286	11.7	16.3			
1961	416	16.7	278	11.2	16.8	16.9	11.2	20.6
1962	414	16.6	265	10.6	24.1			
1963	446	17.8	276	11.0	20.2			

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOSTON M.B., 1963.

No.	Cause of Death.	Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	...	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other ...	...	—
3.	Syphilitic disease ...	...	1
4.	Diphtheria ...	...	—
5.	Whooping Cough ...	...	—
6.	Meningococcal Infections ...	...	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	—
8.	Measles ...	...	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	...	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	...	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	...	13
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	...	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	...	6
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	18	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	...	1
16.	Diabetes ...	...	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	...	24
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	...	21
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	...	—
20.	Other heart disease ...	...	18
21.	Other circulatory disease ...	...	4
22.	Influenza ...	...	—
23.	Pneumonia ...	...	13
24.	Bronchitis ...	...	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	...	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	...	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	...	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	...	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	...	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	...	—
31.	Congenital malformations ...	...	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	21
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ...	...	1
34.	All other accidents ...	...	1
35.	Suicide ...	...	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
	ALL CAUSES	136	140

## METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS

I am indebted to N. H. Middlebrook, Esq., Meteorologist, for the following summary of the weather conditions of the area for the past two years as recorded by him at the Meteorological Station, Freiston Road, Boston.

		1963	1962
Days of measurable rain	... ... ... ...	187	180
Mean maximum temperature (average 56.7°)		54.5°	55°
Mean minimum temperature (average 42.1°)		40.4°	40.1°
Mean day and night temperature (average 49.4°)	... ... ... ...	47.5°	47.5°
No. of days with temperatures between 70° and 79°	... ... ... ...	34	34
No. of days with temperatures 80° or over	...	2	Nil
No. of air frosts	... ... ... ...	82	75
No. of ground frosts	... ... ... ...	126	109
No. of days of snow or sleet	... ... ... ...	41	28
No. of days with thunderstorms	... .. ... ...	10	8
No. of days with fog	... ... ... ...	33	27
No. of days with winds reaching gale force	...	8	12
Total rainfall 21.28" against average of 24.18"			
Total rainfall for 1962 : 19.86"			
Greatest rainfall in one day : .91" on 17th August.			
Highest barometer reading : 31.10" on January 23rd.			
Lowest barometer reading : 29.00" on November 12th and 18th.			

## **SECTION B**

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### **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH**

#### **LABORATORY FACILITIES :—**

Advantage has again been taken of the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln. Samples of ice cream and water have been regularly submitted for examination and further details of this work will be found in Sections C. and E.

The Laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, have continued to carry out chemical examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

#### **AMBULANCE SERVICE :—**

This service is provided and maintained by the Holland County Council through the Ambulance and Transport Department, Allan House, Carlton Road.

During the year the first line general purpose and emergency ambulances have been reduced to three, and one ambulance has been reserved solely for the conveyance of infectious diseases. All these vehicles are of modern design and are based in the Borough. However, two car type "transit" ambulances have been purchased for the speedy conveyance of single stretcher cases over long distances and have proved to be most satisfactory. When not so used these vehicles are quickly converted to comfortable five-seater cars. There are also four cars and two utility vehicles for the conveyance of sitting cases, the latter being adaptable to carry stretcher cases in emergencies. All ambulances carry oxygen therapy apparatus and have been adapted to carry a portable incubator for small premature babies. A mechanical resuscitator is available for cases of drowning, asphyxiation, etc. Apparatus to carry out mouth to mouth resuscitation is also provided.

#### **NURSING IN THE HOME :—**

The home nursing service is under the control of the Local Health Authority.

#### **PUBLIC MORTUARY :—**

The Public Mortuary is managed by the Borough Engineer's Department. I am satisfied that the Mortuary is properly conducted and the facilities adequate.

## HOSPITALS :—

All Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Details of the facilities available in Boston and District are as follows :—

Boston General Hospital—Acute General.

London Road Hospital—General, Orthopaedic and Traumatic Surgery.

White House Hospital, Fishtoft—Infectious and Chest Diseases.

Wyberton West Hospital—Medical and Maternity.

Woodlands Court, Kirton—Aged Sick.

Freiston Hall Children's Hospital—Sick Children.

## THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES :—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

## TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS :—

Clinics are conducted by the Holland County Council at Ferry House, London Road for Infant Welfare, Ante-Natal, Ophthalmic, Dental, Minor Ailments and Speech Therapy. The Child Guidance Centre is in Tower Street.

The Cleansing Station continues to function at Ferry House and further details with regard to the arrangements for the treatment of Scabies will be found in Section F of this Report.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47—REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION :—

In only one instance was action considered necessary under the above Section during the year.

This case was brought to notice by the Welfare Officer who was concerned with the well-being and the poor conditions in which an aged man was living. He was found to be infirm, living alone in insanitary conditions, was unable to devote to himself, and was not receiving from other persons proper care and attention. He declined repeated offers to be cared for in a Home and, in his own interests, it eventually became necessary to arrange for his immediate removal.

On the 27th May, an order was made for his removal to Pinchbeck Road Hospital, Spalding, for a period of three weeks and the order was renewed for a further three months on the 17th June.

He later consented to stay voluntarily at the hospital.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES :—

These services are provided by the Holland County Council.

## **SECTION C**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH**

#### **WATER SUPPLY**

I am indebted to Mr. D. H. Ball, Water Engineer, for the following report on the Borough Water Supply :—

##### **Preamble**

The Corporation's Statutory Area of Supply is  $52\frac{1}{2}$  square miles in extent (or say roughly ten times the area of the Borough), and in addition to the Borough includes the Parish of Revesby in the Horncastle Rural District, the Parishes of West Fen, Carrington, Frithville, Sibsey, Westville, Thornton-le-Fen and Langrivity in the Spilsby Rural District and parts of the Parishes of Fishtoft and Brothertoft in the Boston Rural District.

The estimated water population is 31,000 and the sources of supply are at

- (a) **Fordington** (boreholes in the Spilsby Sandstone—Safe Yield 1 M.G.D.) in the Spilsby Rural District and 4 miles North of Spilsby and approximately 20 miles from Boston.
- (b) **Revesby** (Impounding Reservoir and Catchment Area approximately 2,000 acres—Safe Yield 0.3 M.G.D.) in the Horncastle Rural District and approximately 12 miles North of Boston, and
- (c) **In Bulk** from the mains of the South Lincolnshire Water Board. Limited quantities are also available from the Spilsby and Horncastle Rural District Councils.

**The Mileage of Mains 15" dia. and under total 179 miles.**

The Corporation's Water Undertaking will be merged into the East Lincolnshire Water Board on the 1st April, 1964.

##### **(A) Rainfall**

The rainfall recorded at Revesby during the year 1963 was 22.91" (annual average 25").

Rainfall at Fordington in 1963 was 23.55".

(B) Total Volume of Water supplied in 1963 with comparison for 1962.

Year	Thousands of gallons							Av. G.P.D.
	Revesby	Av. G.P.D.	Fordington	Av. G.P.D.	Bulk	Av. G.P.D.	Total	
1963	241,267	661	187,076	512	186,074	510	614,417	1,683
1962	208,054	570	233,248	639	159,997	438	601,299	1,647
	+ 33,213	+ 91	- 46,172	- 127	+ 26,077	+ 72	+ 13,118	+ 36

The consumption within the Statutory Area of Supply equates to 54.3 gallons per head per day, of which 34.3 gallons represents domestic, non-metered supplies, flushing of mains and waste, etc. and 20.0 gallons for trade supplies, etc.

(C) Pressures

Pressures in the town, whilst an improvement on former years, are tending to reveal a downward trend, due to the expanding industrial demand particularly in peak periods. The general lack of storage in industrial premises, and in the town generally, continues to place great strain on the trunk mains.

(D) Extensions and Renewals of Mains during 1963

Water Main Extensions, 1963

LOCATION	dia. ins.	Type of pipe	Length yds.	Total yds.
<b>BOROUGH</b>				
1. Marsh Lane and Wyberton				
Low Road   ...   ...   ...	6	C.I.	880	
Marsh Lane   ...   ...   ...	3	P.V.C.	93	
2. Holland County Council				
Hostel—Site off London				
Road   ...   ...   ...	3	P.V.C.	160	
3. Hartley Street   ...   ...   ...	4	P.V.C.	300	
4. The Dock   ...   ...   ...	(3	C.I.	24	
	(4	C.I.	262	
				1719
<b>Corporation Housing Estates</b>				
<b>Woad Farm</b>				
5. Wellington Road   ...   ...   ...	4	A.C.	1056	
	1½	A.C.	102	
6. Mayflower Road   ...   ...   ...	4	A.C.	277	
7. Rowley Road/York Street   ...   ...   ...	4	A.C.	26	
(Ext.)   ...   ...   ...	4	C.I.	10	
				1471

### Private Housing Estates

8.	Tattershall Road	...	...	1½	A.C.	71
9.	Monteith Crescent (off Tower Road and Lindis Road)	...		3	P.V.C.	97
				4	P.V.C.	133
10.	Winston Gardens	...	...	3	P.V.C.	384
				4	P.V.C.	385
11.	Allington Garden	...	...	2	P.V.C.	225
				4	P.V.C.	190
12.	Linden Way (including Spilsby Road link)	...	...	4	P.V.C.	290
13.	Cherry Walk (off Woodville Road)	...	...	3	P.V.C.	105
				3	P.V.C.	13
						— 1893
						— 5083
						— 2.89 miles

### Water Main Extensions, 1963

	LOCATION	dia. ins.	Type of pipe	Length yds.	Total yds.
<b>RURAL</b>					
<b>Parish of Fishtoft</b>					
14.	Fishtoft Road				
	(a) Golden Lion to boundary	...	...	6	A.C.
					185
	(b) Halfway House to Old Golf Course	...	...	4	P.V.C.
				4	C.I.
					20
<b>Parish of Revesby</b>					
15.	Moorhouses Bridge to Causeway	...	...	3	P.V.C.
				1½	P.V.C.
					706
					813
<b>Parish of Thornton-le-Fen</b>					
16.	Leagate Road	...	...	3	C.I.
					24
					— 2008
					— 1.14 miles

### Water Main Renewals, 1963

	LOCATION	dia. ins.	Type of pipe	Length yds.	Total yds.
<b>BOROUGH</b>					
<b>1.</b> Fydell Street					
	...	...	4	P.V.C.	440
2.	Market Place, South Street and South End	...	...	9	C.I.
					519
3.	James Street	...	...	4	C.I.
					28
					— 987
					— 0.56 miles

### (E) **Quality of water**

- (i) The quality of the water (from surface and underground sources) has been, in my opinion, satisfactory throughout the year, and regular and systematic flushing operations are undertaken, particularly at "dead" ends.
- (ii) Monthly samples of the raw water and treated water passing to supply at Revesby and Fordington are submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical and bacteriological analysis. No adverse report has been received. Copies of all reports are submitted to the Medical Officer of Health, who in turn supplies me with copies of reports received in respect of samples taken from the town mains at frequent intervals, 93 having been received (11 chemical ; 82 bacteriological) and all were satisfactory. It is hoped that one day iron removal and softening plant will be installed at Fordington but in the interim period "Calgon" is being used (dose 2 p.p.m.) to keep the iron in solution with beneficial results. The treatment plants at Revesby and Fordington are modern and well maintained.
- (iii) The water has no plumbo-solvent action. No form of contamination detected.

### (F) **Quantity of water available**

- (i) Satisfactory during the year apart from limitations previously referred to.
- (ii) The proportion of the houses in the Borough supplied by standpipes and outside taps is relatively small and mainly confined to old parts of the town.

About 1% of the approximate 8,000 houses are without a piped water supply. For the purposes of this report, standpipes and yard taps are treated as piped supplies.

D. H. BALL,

Borough Water Engineer.

4th March, 1964.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE :—

Preliminary work was started on Stage III of the West Side Sewerage Scheme which covers the district around Sleaford Road, Woodville Road and Fenside Road and tenders have been invited. When this has been completed, sewerage and sewage disposal within the Borough will be reasonably adequate. Routine maintenance and sewer cleansing have continued.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE SCHEMES :—

A weekly system of house refuse collection has been maintained. Controlled tipping is carried out on the Old Golf Course. Collections of waste paper for the year ending 31st December, 1963, were 774 tons compared with 707 tons in the previous year.

Costs for the year ending 31st March, 1963, were :—

Collection	...	...	...	...	...	£25,196
Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	£7,442
						£32,638
Less Income from salvage, trade refuse, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	£8,297
						£24,341
Nett cost per ton	...	...	...	...	...	39/-
Nett cost per 1,000 of population	...	...	...	...	...	£976
Nett cost per 1,000 of premises	...	...	...	...	...	£2,590
Weight per 1,000 of population per day	27.6	cwts.				

## SWIMMING BATHS :—

The swimming season started late in Boston as it was not until the 13th June that the baths were opened. The waiting proved well worth while as this year the new baths in Rowley Road have been brought into use. At present they are not provided with all the amenities that were originally envisaged but at least we now have a first class pool, constructed to International standards and fitted with efficient filtration and purification plant. No longer are we worried about the bacteriological quality of the water, nor do we have the unhappy experience of finding that overnight the water has changed to something with the appearance of cloudy beer.

During the season, 14 samples of water from the pool were sent for bacteriological examination and they were all reported as satisfactory.

## MEASURES AGAINST INFESTATION :—

### (a) Rodent Control :—

Our contractors have continued to do a satisfactory job and the number of infested dwelling houses has declined once more. A major

infestation of the refuse tip was discovered towards the end of the year but this was quickly brought under control.

The following table gives particulars of work carried out.

Year	No. of premises treated	No. of visits made
1961	438	1557
1962	203	430
1963	176	366

#### (b) **Verminous Houses :—**

The number of premises treated for vermin is as follows :—

Bed Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cockroaches, Ants, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION IN THE BOROUGH :—**

The following information has been supplied by Mr. G. E. Chamberlain, the Chief Public Health Inspector, who is also responsible for the preparation of the remainder of this Section, Section D and much of Section E.

This was a year of steady progress with few outstanding events. Reference is made elsewhere to the opening of the new swimming pool, an event which I view both with satisfaction and relief. Satisfaction that at last the town has a swimming bath that is worthy of it and relief that the old bath has been closed and that no longer do we tread the narrow, precarious path between a water which is bacteriologically dangerous nor one which is over-chlorinated and chemically harmful.

Trespassing by caravans stationed without permission on Corporation land gave more trouble than usual and culminated in a successful County Court action against the owner of one such van, when the Corporation were granted an injunction and damages. No attempt was made to collect the damages, the men being unemployed, but eventually the injunction had the desired effect and the caravan was removed.

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, which came into operation on the 1st October are a major step forward. Inevitably they result in more time being spent on meat inspection and it is a matter

of regret that although local authorities now have a duty to inspect all meat, they still have no control over the times at which slaughtering may take place.

The Regulations also permit charges to be made to the butcher for the inspection of his meat. Whether or not the butcher should pay directly for what, he claims, is essentially a service to the consumer will no doubt cause controversy for many years to come. On the other hand, there is no reason why the ratepayers of Boston should bear the cost of inspecting a large quantity of meat that is destined to be consumed in other parts of the country. Prior to these Regulations coming into force, a Government grant was made towards the cost of meat inspection and although the amount of the grant may not have been satisfactory, many people consider that this was a better scheme.

Throughout the year there was much "back room" activity in connection with the third stage of the sewerage scheme and early in 1964 a contract was placed and materials and machinery began to be assembled. It is hoped that next year it will be possible to report considerable progress.

#### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR :—

	Inspections	Revisits and Routine Inspections.
Housing Act (including house-to-house)	89	313
Overcrowding	90	6
Public Health Acts	190	378
Drainage	113	185
Dustbins	6	10
Offensive Trades	—	2
Caravan Act	16	132
Food Hygiene	20	110
Slaughterhouses (Structure)	—	24
Market Stalls	—	16
Factories	4	39
Clean Air Act	7	4
Smoke Observation	1	5
Noise Abatement Act	7	15
Visits to Dock	3	61
Vessels Inspected	85	42
Dysentery and Food Poisoning	141	599

					Inspections	Revisits and Routine Inspections.
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	16	—
Rat Infestation	...	...	...	...	9	4
Insect Infestation	...	...	...	...	8	8
Shops (Shops Act, 1950)	...	...	...	...	2	8
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	—	4
Licensing Act	...	...	...	...	21	16
<b>Total</b>	...	...	...	...	<b>828</b>	<b>1981</b>
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	486
Number of visits to slaughterhouses					...	2333
Visits re unsound food	...	...	...	...	...	54
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	205

#### Samples Taken

##### Water :—

Public Supply	...	...	...	...	93
Swimming Baths	...	...	...	...	14
Other	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	29
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	11

#### Drains

Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	19
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

#### Other Public Health Work

Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	3
Disfestations	...	...	...	...	...	9

#### OFFICE WORK :—

##### Informal Notices

		Served	Complied with
Housing Act, 1957	...	...	Nil
Public Health Acts, 1936 & 1961		44	43
Dustbin	...	...	4

##### Statutory Notices

		Served	Complied with
Housing Act, 1957, Sect. 9	...	Nil	3
Public Health Acts, 1936 & 1961		6	4
Dustbin	...	Nil	Nil
Conversions	...	Nil	Nil

PREMISES DISINFECTED :—

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

NUISANCES REPORTED AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED :—

Total number of complaints received	...	...	450
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

The following are details of complaints received and remedied :—

General Housing Complaints	...	...	...	36
Defective Dustbins	...	...	...	5
Defective W.C.'s	...	...	...	5
Defective Yard and Passage Paving	...	...	...	1
Caravans	...	...	...	1
Bugs	...	...	...	1
Fleas, Beetles, etc.	...	...	...	5
Ants	...	...	...	6
Wasps' and Bees' Nests	...	...	...	30
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	99
Choked Drains and Sewers	...	...	...	140
Defective Drains	...	...	...	5
Cesspools	...	...	...	1
Flooded Cellars	...	...	...	3
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	9
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	7
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	80
Unsound Food	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	14

NUISANCES FROM PREMISES OTHER THAN

DWELLINGS :—

Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Other Items

WATER :—

This department is concerned with the quality of the water as delivered to the consumer and during the year 11 samples were taken for chemical analysis and 82 samples for bacteriological examination. No unsatisfactory reports were received and in addition no complaints were made of poor pressure or discolouration.

The following table classifies the results of the samples examined bacteriologically.

Satisfactory.	Suspicious.	Unsatisfactory.
82	Nil	Nil

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES :—

There are no registered common lodging houses in the town.

### FACTORIES :—

Once again the number of factories registered fell slightly from 200 to 195. It is regretted that little time was devoted to inspections but with a general increase in other duties there is a greater tendency to rely on the Factory Inspector to bring to our notice matters requiring attention.

Particulars of visits to factories are contained in the following tables.

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1963 for the Borough of Boston in the County of Holland (Lincs.).**

#### PART I OF THE ACT.

##### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .... ....	7	7	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ....	176	25	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	12	11	Nil	Nil
Total ....	195	43	Nil	Nil

## 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Overcrowding (S.2) ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
(b) Unsuitable or defective ....	4	3	Nil	4	Nil	
(c) Not separate for sexes ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Total ....	4	3	Nil	4	Nil	

## PART VIII OF THE ACT.

### Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prose- cutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in un- whole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Wearing Apparel: Making, etc.	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ....	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

## OUTWORKERS' PREMISES :—

Only one outworker is registered and the premises are satisfactory. No case of infectious disease occurred on these premises.

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## SECTION D

### HOUSING

Number of Houses erected in the Borough during the year :—

		Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise	...	53	40	6
(b) By the Council	...	68	—	—

Number under construction at the end of 1963 :—

		Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(a) By private enterprise	...	34	28	—
(b) By the Council	...	66	6	—

### SLUM CLEARANCE :—

During the year confirmation was received of the Witham Green Compulsory Purchase Order and of three small clearance orders. The Witham Green area, containing 80 houses is the last area of any size in the slum clearance programme. The three clearance orders covered 20 houses and in addition 6 demolition orders and 5 closing orders were made, a total of 111 houses. Later in the year two compulsory purchase orders and a clearance order were made but have not yet been confirmed. The number of houses affected is 34.

The Council's rehousing policy is, wherever possible, to put families in accommodation that is suitable and in a locality where they wish to live. This has sometimes resulted in isolated families being left in a row of houses awaiting demolition and in consequence the number of houses actually demolished is lower than one would expect.

The following tables show the progress made in rehousing and demolition.

REPAIR AND DEMOLITION :—

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE.

A.	HOUSES DEMOLISHED DURING THE YEAR	IN CLEARANCE AREAS DECLARED UNDER SECTION 42 of the Housing Act, 1957	No. of Houses Demolished	Unfit for human habitation .... .... .... ....	44
				Included by reason of bad arrangement ....	Nil
				On land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957 ....	Nil
				From houses unfit for human habitation ....	97
				From houses included by reason of bad arrangement .... ....	Nil
				From houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957 .... .... .... ....	Nil
				From houses unfit for human habitation ....	30
				From houses included by reason of bad arrangement .... ....	Nil
				From houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957 .... .... .... ....	Nil
				As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957 .... .... ....	1
NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS		No. of Houses	Demolished	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health .... .... ....	Nil
				Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil
				Houses included in un- fitness orders made un- der paragraph 2 of the Second Schedule to the Land Compensa- tion Act, 1961 .... ....	Nil

			From houses to be demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	14
		PERSONS DISPLACED during year	From Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health ....	Nil
	NOT		From houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil
	IN		From houses included in unfitness orders ....	Nil
	CLEARANCE		From houses to be demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 ....	5
	AREAS	FAMILIES DISPLACED during year	From Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health ....	Nil
			From houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	Nil
			From houses included in unfitness orders ....	Nil
Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed .... .... .... ....				Nil
B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED during the year in pursuance of closing orders or undertakings.	No. of HOUSES		Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26, Housing Act, 1961 .... .... ....	1
			Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 .... .... .... ....	Nil
	PERSONS DISPLACED during year		From houses to be closed :— Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26, Housing Act, 1961 .... .... ....	4
			Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 .... .... .... ....	Nil
	FAMILIES DISPLACED during year		From houses to be closed :— Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26, Housing Act, 1961 .... .... ....	1
			Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957 .... .... .... ....	Nil

PARTS OF BUILDINGS CLOSED  
under Section 18, Housing Act,  
1957 :—

No. of HOUSES	....	....	....	....	1
No. of PERSONS DISPLACED	....	....	....	....	2
No. of FAMILIES DISPLACED	....	....	....	....	1

C.  UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED	After informal action by Local Authority : by owner	....	....	....	22
	After formal notice under Public Health Acts				
	(a) by owner	....	....	....	3
	(b) by Local Authority	....	....	....	Nil
	After formal notice under Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957				
	(a) by owner	....	....	....	5
	(b) by Local Authority	....	....	....	Nil
Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 by owner	....	....	....	....	1

D.  UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING ACT, 1957)	POSITION AT END OF YEAR	Under Section 48			
		No. of houses	....	....	....
	Retained for temporary accommo- dation	No. of separate dwellings contained therein	....	....	....
		Under Section 17(2)			
	Retained for temporary accommo- dation	No. of houses	....	....	....
		No. of separate dwellings contained therein	....	....	....
E.  PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT	Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders	Under Section 46			
		No. of houses	....	....	....
		No. of separate dwellings contained therein	....	....	....
		Licensed for temporary accommoda- tion under Section 34 or 53—			
E.  PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT	Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders	No. of houses	....	....	....
		No. of houses	....	....	Nil
		No. of occupants	....	....	Nil

## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION :—

Once more the appointed day by which all slaughterhouses would have to comply with the standards laid down in the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations was postponed—this time until the 1st January, 1964. By that date a new slaughterhouse had been built on the outskirts of the town by a firm of wholesale butchers. This was a very good job and provided proper facilities for the hygienic production of meat. Various improvements were carried out to those slaughterhouses which were not up to standard and as from the 1st January, 1964, two wholesale butchers and seven retailers held slaughterhouse licences.

Comment has been made elsewhere on the new Meat Inspection Regulations. One rather unexpected result of operating these regulations was to find that although a slaughterhouse may comply with the hygiene and prevention of cruelty regulations, it is not necessarily adequate for the proper carrying out of the Meat Inspection Regulations. It has been found that it is extremely difficult to carry out the regulations to the letter and in fact it appears to be virtually impossible in the larger slaughterhouses unless an inspector is in attendance all the time that slaughtering is in progress. This of course is the ideal arrangement but it will obviously have an effect on the cost of meat inspection.

Weekend meat inspection has still been necessary but there is now only one firm working regularly on Sundays.

The following tables give details of the number of carcases inspected and the amount of meat condemned. The number of cows slaughtered has increased considerably, mainly due to one firm trading in boning beef who brought their slaughtering to Boston in October. Other figures are not substantially different although the number of cattle excluding cows has risen about 10%.

#### Meat Destroyed

	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
Carcases whole with offal	26	36	95	157
Forequarters	1	—	1	2
Hindquarters	2	—	—	2
Plucks	—	41	425	466
Heads and Tongues	53	—	209	262
Livers	397	9	188	594
Lungs	47	—	78	125
Intestines	12	—	4	16
Miscellaneous	80	2	65	147
Meat	74 lbs.	—	68½ lbs.	142½ lbs.

### Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	3986	644	58	13766	18039	Nil
Number inspected ....	3986	644	58	13766	18039	Nil
<b>All diseases except</b>						
<b>Tuberculosis and</b>						
<b>Cysticerci :</b>						
Whole carcases condemned .... .... ....	3	17	5	36	91	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .... .... ....	288	168	8	52	722	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci .... .... .... ....	7.3	28.7	22.4	.64	4.5	—
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>						
Whole carcases condemned .... .... ....	—	1	—	—	4	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .... .... ....	13	47	1	—	210	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ....	.33	7.5	1.7	—	1.2	—
<b>Cysticercosis :</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .... .... ....	16	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .... .... ....	16	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned .... .... ....	—	—	—	—	—	—

### MILK AND OTHER FOODS :—

The supervision of milk is now almost entirely in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Drugs Authorities and in consequence little work on this subject was done. As much time as possible was spent in food premises, the emphasis being put on explaining the regulations rather than enforcing them. Generally, the traders are co-operative but like Public Health Departments, they have their manpower difficulties. 3 informal notices were served drawing attention to breaches of the regulations but no stronger action was required.

## ACTION UNDER REGULATION 20, MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 :—

No action was necessary under the above Regulation during 1963.

## FOOD POISONING :—

During the year there was one notified case of suspected Food Poisoning. This was fully investigated but no specific cause was found.

## BYE-LAWS UNDER SECTION 15, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 :—

The enforcement of the bye-laws has not created any difficulties, such breaches as have been observed being dealt with by verbal or written warnings.

## ICE-CREAM :—

During the year there was an increase of one in the number of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream and also one for the manufacture and storage. The results of samples submitted for bacteriological examination are given in the following table:—

Samples examined by the Methylene Blue Test.

Number of samples submitted	...	...	...	29
Number of samples classified Grade I	...	...	13	
Number of samples classified Grade II	...	...	8	
Number of samples classified Grade III	...	...	6	
Number of samples classified Grade IV	...	...	2	

## **SECTION F**

### **PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

The following table shows the total number of infectious diseases notified and confirmed during the year and the numbers admitted to hospital.

**Measles** : There were 242 cases notified during 1963. This is somewhat lower than the expected figure for a disease which has a biennial cycle.

**Scarlet Fever** : There were 20 cases notified during the year which is less than half the previous year's figure.

**Pneumonia** : 25 cases were notified during 1963.

**Meningitis** : There was only one notified case during the year.

**Food Poisoning** : There was only one notified case.

**Dysentery** : There were 132 cases notified during the year. Although fewer than in 1962 they created a considerable amount of trouble in that the investigation of each suspected case was time consuming and often required several visits by the Public Health Inspectors. Although it mainly affected school children quite a number of adults became infected, probably from this source. The main spread was within the schools and then transferred to the children's homes. In most instances the disease was mild and the symptoms soon disappeared. The infection was difficult to clear up in some cases and a "carrier" state developed lasting several weeks. In time, however, all the known cases became bacteriologically negative.

**Smallpox, Diphtheria, Typhoid and Paratyphoid** : No cases were reported as occurring in the Borough during the year.

**Scabies** : 6 cases were notified as occurring in the Borough during the year, treatment for three patients being provided by their medical practitioner, whilst the remaining three cases were treated at the Cleansing Station.

The Holland County Council provides treatment for cases of Scabies occurring in the Borough, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the Corporation. Should medical practitioners request treatment for patients, details of notifications are immediately passed to the County Council thus ensuring that infected persons receive early treatment.

In order to prevent the spread of Infectious Disease, International Regulations require travellers to be inoculated or vaccinated against certain specified diseases such as Smallpox, Cholera and Yellow Fever. Certificates to this effect are required to be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health and many such certificates have been completed during the year.

## Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1963

Disease		Cases Notified	Confirmed Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital
Chicken Pox	....	37	37	Nil
Dysentery	....	132	128	1
Food Poisoning	....	1	1	Nil
Measles	....	242	242	Nil
Meningococcal Infection	....	1	1	1
Pneumonia	....	25	25	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	1	1	Nil
Scabies	....	6	6	Nil
Scarlet Fever	....	20	20	Nil
Whooping Cough	....	1	1	Nil

## Infectious Diseases Notified 1954—1963

Disease	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Chicken Pox	37	249	195	300	362	210	90	70	462	248
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	132	176	6	4	246	15	8	5	12	136
Encephalitis : (Post Infectious)	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	2	3	3	5	3	2	3	2	1
Food Poisoning	1	7	13	6	13	2	31	15	20	3
Malaria (Con- tracted Abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Measles	242	251	486	87	633	6	723	152	277	47
Meningococcal Infection	1	4	4	—	1	1	—	—	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	25	29	39	26	42	51	52	38	45	21
Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	10	16	4	10	—
Scabies	6	—	—	3	—	18	1	9	14	2
Scarlet Fever	20	47	27	56	16	15	7	15	38	26
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	2	43	65	—	1	145	56	25	117

## TUBERCULOSIS :—

Cases notified within the Borough come under the control of Dr. A. M. Forrest, Chest Physician, South Lincolnshire Area.

### TUBERCULOSIS. New Cases and Deaths.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	4	1	—	1	2	—	—	—

### SUMMARY OF CASES ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1954—1963

Year	Cases on Register			Notifications each year			Deaths		
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total
1954	104	21	125	12	11	23	4	1	5
1955	108	20	128	16	6	22	2	1	3
1956	100	22	122	6	2	8	2	—	2
1957	102	20	122	10	—	10	—	—	—
1958	106	21	127	13	2	15	4	1	5
1959	118	21	139	19	—	19	3	—	3
1960	122	26	148	16	5	21	4	—	4
1961	125	26	151	11	1	12	1	—	1
1962	128	26	154	8	2	10	2	—	2
1963	126	26	152	5	1	6	2	—	2

## TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Males		Females		Total
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(a) Number of cases on Register at beginning of year	75	15	53	11	154
(b) Number of cases notified for first time in year ....	—	—	—	1	1
(c) Number of cases restored to Register .... .... ....	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Number of cases added to Register other than by formal notification ....	4	—	1	—	5
(e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year .... .... .... ....	6	1	1	—	8
(f) Number of cases remaining on Register on 31st Dec., 1963 .... .... .... ....	73	14	53	12	152

### IMMUNISATION :—

All arrangements in connection with immunisation within the Borough are under the control of the Holland County Council.

The following figures, supplied by the County Health Department, give details of the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

#### Diphtheria :

Under 1 year ... ... ... ...	162
1 and under 5 years ... ... ... ...	179
5-14 years ... ... ... ...	6
	—
Number of Booster Injections ... ...	347
	418

#### Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough :

Under 5 years ... ... ... ...	2

#### Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus :

Under 5 years ... ... ... ...	342

Percentage of children immunised against Diphtheria in relation to the child population at 31.12.63 :—

Under 1 year ... ... ... ...	34.9%
1 and under 5 years ... ... ... ...	52.5%
5-14 years ... ... ... ...	94.4%

The results for the year 1963 are very similar to those for 1962. There was a higher percentage immunised under the age of 1 year but this could be accounted for by the fact that immunisation generally is commenced at an earlier age than before and a slightly higher proportion of children were thus able to complete the course of injections before the end of the year. It is appreciated that only a proportion of infants born during 1963 can complete a course of 3 injections before the end of the year.

#### VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX :—

##### Primary Vaccinations :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
2-4 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
15 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
							158

##### Re-vaccinations :—

1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
2-4 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
15 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
							18

There is a marked drop in the numbers vaccinated. This was to be expected as the figures for 1962 were abnormally high due to the presence of Smallpox in the country. These outbreaks are quickly forgotten by the general public and cause them little concern.

#### VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS :—

The following information has been supplied by the County Health Department.

##### POSITION AT 31st December, 1963.

Of the babies born in 1963, 8.1% had been vaccinated against Poliomyelitis at 31.12.63. By 31st March, 1964, this figure had risen to 20.8%.

**Other Pre-School Ages.**

<b>Born in</b>	<b>Percentage vaccinated.</b>					
1962	...	...	...	...	...	59.4
1961	...	...	...	...	...	71.3
1960	...	...	...	...	...	72.0
1959	...	...	...	...	...	86.1

**School Age Group.**

<b>Born in</b>	<b>Percentage vaccinated.</b>					
1958	...	...	...	...	...	83.7
1957	...	...	...	...	...	91.3
1956	...	...	...	...	...	81.5
1955	...	...	...	...	...	86.8
1954	...	...	...	...	...	85.1
1953	...	...	...	...	...	86.7
1952	...	...	...	...	...	86.0
1951	...	...	...	...	...	85.6
1950	...	...	...	...	...	79.7
1949	...	...	...	...	...	72.9
1948	...	...	...	...	...	83.0
1947	...	...	...	...	...	76.9
<b>1937—1946</b>	<b>1946</b>	...	...	...	...	74.1
	<b>1945</b>	...	...	...	...	68.9
	<b>1944</b>	...	...	...	...	72.6
	<b>1943</b>	...	...	...	...	64.3
	<b>1942</b>	...	...	...	...	53.3
	<b>1941</b>	...	...	...	...	48.4
	<b>1940</b>	...	...	...	...	54.5
	<b>1939</b>	...	...	...	...	55.2
	<b>1938</b>	...	...	...	...	46.0
	<b>1937</b>	...	...	...	...	45.9
<b>1927—1936</b>	<b>1936</b>	...	...	...	...	48.0
	<b>1935</b>	...	...	...	...	44.9
	<b>1934</b>	...	...	...	...	42.4
	<b>1933</b>	...	...	...	...	45.3
	<b>1932</b>	...	...	...	...	36.8
	<b>1931</b>	...	...	...	...	51.2
	<b>1930</b>	...	...	...	...	46.9
	<b>1929</b>	...	...	...	...	49.8
	<b>1928</b>	...	...	...	...	43.8
	<b>1927</b>	...	...	...	...	39.2

ANNUAL REPORT  

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OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  

---

AND OF THE  
**CHIEF PORT HEALTH INSPECTOR**  

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**PART II**

**BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1963.

# **BOSTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1963.**

To : The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses  
of the Borough of Boston,  
being the Boston Port Health Authority, as constituted by the  
Boston Port Orders, 1933 and 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Report of the Port Medical Officer of the Boston Port Health Authority for the year ended 31st December, 1963 as required by Regulation 12(4) of the Public Health (Port Health District) Regulations, 1959. It has been prepared in accordance with Form Port 20 of the Ministry of Health.

During the year there was a marked rise in the total number of ships entering the Port. There was an increase of 222 from foreign ports compared with 1962, 1,255 as against 1,033. This gave a tonnage of 276,668 compared with 235,517. The number of coastwise ships was 268, an increase of 7 compared with 1962. The tonnage in this instance was 58,756 compared with 53,189. The total tonnage was 335,424 as against 288,706, an increase of 46,718 tons.

As far as the cargo traffic was concerned there was little change in the character both of the imports and exports. Foreign ports of origin were also mainly the same.

No cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported on any of the ships arriving in the Port during 1963.

During the year 31 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued, 3 more than in the previous year. In the same period, 15 notices were served in respect of structural defects and other nuisances. 12 of these were complied with and in the remaining 3 cases, the ships sailed before completion.

I should like to thank the officers of H.M. Customs, the Port Manager and his Staff and all others connected with the Port for their assistance during the year and also the Port Health Inspectors for their usual conscientious work.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. HIRD,

**Port Medical Officer of Health.**

Public Health Department,  
8 Bridge Street,  
BOSTON, Lincs.  
March, 1964.

SECTION I—Staff.

TABLE A.

Name of officer	Nature of appointment.	Date of appointment.	Qualifications.	Any other appointments held.
HIRD, G.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	1.5.58.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant C.M.O.—Holland County Council. Medical Officer of Health—Borough of Boston. Medical Officer of Health—Boston R.D.C.
CHAMBERLAIN, G. E.	Chief Port Health Inspector.	15.10.45.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Chief Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.
MILSOM, D. H.	Deputy Chief Port Health Inspector.	1.10.59.	Cert.S.I.B., Cert. Meat & Food Inspector.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.
SAUNDERS, B. J.	Additional Port Health Inspector.	26.6.61.	Cert. P.H.I.E.B., Dip. Meat & Food Inspection.	Additional Public Health Inspector—Borough of Boston.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
8 Bridge Street, BOSTON, Lincs.  
BOSTON 4601 (six lines).

SECTION II—Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Port Health Inspectors	
Foreign Ports	1,255	276,668	Nil	93	Nil
Coastwise ....	268	58,756	Nil	15	Nil
Total .... ....	1,523	335,424	Nil	108	Nil

### SECTION III—Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC ....	Number of passengers INWARDS : 86 Number of passengers OUTWARDS : 34
CARGO TRAFFIC ....	Principal IMPORTS : Aluminium Ingots, Battens and Boards, Bulbs, Deals, Fertilisers, Fruit and Vegetables, Glucose, Grain, Perlite, Petroleum, Potatoes, Salt, Sleepers, Starch, Steel, Telegraph Poles and General. Principal EXPORTS : Cattle, Coal, Grain, Pig Iron, Sand, Sheep, Steel and General.
PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive ....	BELGIUM : Antwerp, Ghent, Rieme, Terneuzen, Zeebrugge. CYPRUS : Famagusta. DENMARK : Aalborg, Esbjerg. EGYPT : Alexandria. FINLAND : Abo, Hamina, Haukipudas, Kotka, Mäntyluoto, Walkom. FRANCE : Bayonne, Rouen. GERMANY : Bremen, Bremerhaven, Hamburg, Stralsund, Wismar. GREECE : Milos. HOLLAND : Amsterdam, Breskens, Koog Aan De Zaan, Maassluis, Rotterdam. MOROCCO : Casablanca. NORWAY : Aaheim, Aalesond, Moh-I-Rana, Sundalsora. POLAND : Danzig, Stettin. RUSSIA : Archangel, Igarka, Kem, Leningrad, Onega, Pechora. SARDINIA : Cagliari. SPAIN : Barcelona. SWEDEN : Burea, Halmstad, Kalmar, Norrkoping, Sundsvall.

#### SECTION IV—Inland barge traffic.

No inland barge traffic entered the port during the year.

## SECTION V—Water supply

#### 1. Source of supply for

## 2. Reports of tests for contamination.

No Change

### 3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

### No Change

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

There are no water boats in the Port.

No Change

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## SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

1. List of Infected Areas. (Regulation 6).

Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure for supplying it to those persons.

No Change

2. Radio Messages.

(a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the district. (Regulation 13).

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Boston is not a radio transmitting or receiving port.

No Change.

3. Notifications otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)). Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

No Change

4. Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30).

Situation of stations, and any standing directions issued under these Regulations.

No Change.

5. Arrangements for :—

(a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox—see Section VII) :

No Change

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts :

No Change

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles :

No Change

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## SECTION VII—Smallpox.

1. Name of Isolation Hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.

All cases of smallpox are sent to the Laceby Smallpox Hospital.

2. Arrangements for transport of such cases to that hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

The transport of all cases of smallpox is the responsibility of the Holland County Council who will provide ambulances together with specially trained and vaccinated crews.

3. Names of smallpox consultants available.

Dr. G. Nisbet,  
Bridge Street,  
Peterborough.

Dr. J. Glen,  
Springfield Hospital,  
Scarthoe,  
Grimsby.

4. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

Where laboratory diagnosis is required specimens are sent to Professor A. W. Downie, Bacteriology Department, Medical School, Ashton Street, Liverpool, 3.

#### SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease.

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

No Change

#### SECTION IX—Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships.

TABLE D.

Category.	Disease	Number of cases during the year.		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports .... .... .... ....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No cases of Smallpox, Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus or Relapsing Fever occurred during the year 1963.

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#### SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships.

There have been no cases of Malaria occurring on any arriving ship.

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#### SECTION XI—Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague.

No "infected" or "suspected" ships entered the port during 1963.

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#### SECTION XII—Measures against rodents in ships from foreign ports.

##### 1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

All ships from "infected ports" are searched for evidence of rats (excreta, gnawings, runs, etc.) and traps are set for confirmation of findings. Similar precautions are taken if the crew or stevedores report indications of rats on other ships or if routine inspections reveal suspicious circumstances.

One ship was found apparently with a heavy rat infestation. Poison and traps were laid but no bodies were recovered although a large amount of poison was consumed. The ship sailed the following day and the next port of call was notified.

##### 2. Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

Bodies of rodents are sent for routine examination for plague to the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln, but during 1963 no bodies were recovered from ships using the port.

##### 3. Arrangements in the district for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Boston is not a designated approved port and there are no standing arrangements for the deratting of ships.

##### 4. Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

Any work found to be necessary is carried out under the supervision of the Chief Port Health Inspector.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

Category.	Number.
Black rats .... .... .... .... ....	Nil
Brown rats .... .... .... .... ....	Nil
Species not known .... .... ....	Nil
Sent for examination .... .... ....	Nil
Infected with plague .... .... ....	Nil

TABLE F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Boston is not a designated approved port and therefore no Deratting Certificates have been issued.

Net tonnage.	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued.
Ships up to 300 tons .... ....	16
Ships from 301—1,000 tons ....	13
Ships from 1,001—3,000 tons ....	2
Total .... ....	31

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### SECTION XIII—Inspection of ships for nuisances.

TABLE G.

Inspections and Notices.

Nature and number of nuisances found.	Notices Served		Result of serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Defects of Original Construction .... ....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Structural Defects through wear and tear	7	Nil	7
Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health	8	Nil	8
Total ....	15	Nil	12 complied with 3 not complied with.

## SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948.

No Change

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## SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

No Change

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## SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

No Change

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### Food Inspection.

A list of the principal food imports appears in Table C on page 42. The main items of food were as follows :—

	Tons
Grain (in) ....	46,235
Grain (out) ....	19,057
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables ....	26,338
Potatoes ....	32,828
Onions ....	16,247
Starch ....	15,945
Glucose ....	4,625
Confectionery ....	209
Dehydrated Vegetables ....	356
Beer ....	697
Vegetables in Brine ....	1,278
Rice ....	132
Tomato Preserves ....	145
Soup ....	46
Butter ....	38
Frozen Foods ....	237
Honey ....	192
Fruit in Tins ....	81
Meat in Tins ....	36
Miscellaneous ....	82

During the year the following amounts of foodstuffs were found to be unfit and were destroyed :—

Apples	....	....	....	....	....	1 Case.
Carrots	....	....	....	....	....	38 x 50 lb. bags.
"	....	....	....	....	....	347 $\frac{1}{2}$ bags.
"	....	....	....	....	....	53 $\frac{1}{4}$ bags.
"	....	....	....	....	....	32 trays.
Melons	....	....	....	....	....	68 crates.
Onions	....	....	....	....	....	834 $\frac{1}{2}$ bags.
Potatoes	....	....	....	....	....	50 tons 10 cwts.
"	....	....	....	....	....	248 x 56 lb. bags.
"	....	....	....	....	....	29 x 72 lb. cases.
"	....	....	....	....	....	48 x 56 lb. cases.
"	....	....	....	....	....	59 baskets.

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